

characters. The upper leaves of *Centaurea Iberica* are elliptic to oblong, 10-18 mm. long, and entire, while those of *Centaurea calcitrapa* are pinnately divided into linear or lanceolate lobes about 5 mm. wide, or sometimes undivided but linear and less than 5 mm. wide, and always serrulate. Only the lower leaves of the former species are serrulate. The heads of *Centaurea Iberica* are broader, the spines heavier, the achenes slightly longer than those of the commoner species and are white to sordid instead of brown. *Centaurea calcitrapa* achenes are destitute of any pappus, while those of *Centaurea Iberica* have a pappus of 40-50 narrow, finely serrulate paleaceous bristles arranged in about three series. The accompanying figures indicate the distinctive characters of this thistle.

*LEPIDIUM DRABA* L. was collected several months ago by Mr. Nuttall "—along the Tia Juana River a little way north of the border," where it had become well established. This weed had been reported from Los Angeles, Huntington Beach, and Chino, in southern California, and is not uncommon from the vicinity of San Luis Obispo northward, but this is the first record, so far as I am aware, for San Diego County.

Dudley Herbarium,  
Stanford University.

#### IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Alice Scouvert, a former member of this Society, died in Brussels, Belgium, on November 17, 1932. While in California she took a lively interest in the native plants. On the Society's field excursions, unconsciously on her part, she put to shame many members who insisted on using vernacular names by indicating to them how quickly she obtained a clue to the relationship of plants strange to her when favored with the Latin binomial. Her training at the University of Brussels was in botany and the allied sciences.

Mrs. D. O. (Clara Adele) Hunt of St. Helena, a former member, died on April 4, 1932. For forty years she studied the natural history of the native plants of Napa Valley and cultivated many in her garden. For nearly as long a period her botanical activity found expression in arranging exhibitions and meetings in order to interest the people of her valley in the flowering vegetation. She was a relative of Alphonse Wood, whose "Class Book of Botany" was a familiar text in the eastern United States two generations ago.

Dr. Harvey Monroe Hall, a charter member of the Society, died March 11, 1932. He had long been connected with the University of California, and in later years with the Carnegie Institution of Washington. He was an able botanist who had done a notable amount of work, and his sudden passing was a shock to his friends.

Miss Anna Head, also a charter member, well-known in California as a pioneer in education for girls, died December 24, 1932. She was the founder of the Anna Head School in Berkeley and its principal from 1880 to 1909, and during that time did much to stimulate the

interest of students in botany and gardening. Since her retirement in 1909, she had been living in Berkeley.

At the annual dinner of the Society on February 25, 1933, the president, Dr. George J. Peirce, after speaking words of memorial for each of these members, asked the membership to rise and remain standing in silence for a few moments in tribute to their memory.—W. L. J.

## NOTES AND NEWS

At the Atlantic City meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, December 28-30, 1932, Section G (Botanical Sciences) held a memorial program celebrating the centenary of the birth of Julius von Sachs (1832-1897). On this occasion, a paper by Dr. D. H. Campbell, of Stanford University, on the Sachs text-book and its influence on botany in America, was read by Dr. G. J. Peirce of Stanford.

At the Ann Arbor meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, in November, 1932, Dr. D. H. Campbell of Stanford University read a paper on "Some problems of the Hawaiian flora."

Wilhelm N. Suksdorf, pioneer field botanist of the Pacific Northwest, was struck and killed by a train near his home in Bingen, Washington, on October 3, 1932. Probably most Pacific Coast botanists who have been engaged in field studies within the state of Washington within the last fifty-five years, have had occasion to make the acquaintance of this most affable, enthusiastic and able German botanist. It became more essential in recent years for students of that flora to seek out Mr. Suksdorf for information regarding exact distribution and other matters pertaining to numerous species bearing Mr. Suksdorf's name or named by him. One could always expect most courteous responses to queries, and Mr. Suksdorf gave freely of his time to accompany botanists to the more obscure localities in his neighborhood. At the time of his death, Mr. Suksdorf was doubtless the senior field botanist of the Pacific Coast, being the last survivor of that list of botanical collectors cited in the Botany of California. According to a note in the journal *Science*, Mr. Suksdorf's herbarium and library have been willed to the State College of Washington.—D. D. KECK.

"Plants of the Rocky Mountain National Park" by Ruth E. Ashton is a publication of the National Park Service designed for the use of tourists. It contains 157 pages with 115 illustrations which are almost wholly photographic.

In the American Journal of Botany for October, 1931, Edna L. Johnson in a paper "On the alleged stimulating action of X-rays upon plants" reports that in the case of tomato, sunberry, sunflower and vetch seedlings no increased growth of the experimental plants over the controls was evidenced by measurements of height and green and dry weight determinations.